

DEC 1951 51-48

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

## INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY USSR

REPORT

SUBJECT Impressions of N S Khrushchev/Air Filters and Other Security Measures in Certain Buildings/Some Data on Malenkov, Bulganin, and Other Soviet Political Figures.

PLACE ACQUIRED

DATE ACQUIRED

DATE DISTR. 30 Apr 53

NO. OF PAGES 3

NO. OF ENCLS.

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SUPP. TO  
REPORT

1. In about 1937 and 1938, Nikita Sergeevich Khrushchev [Никита Сергеевич Хрущев] was Secretary of the Moscow Committee of the Communist Party as well as a member of the USSR's Central Committee of the Communist Party. [redacted] he has very recently been appointed the new Secretary General of the USSR Communist Party, as well as now [1953] being on the Presidium of the Central Committee of the Communist Party, and, of course, a member of the Secretariat of the Presidium of the Central Committee of the Communist Party. [redacted] it was in about 1938 or 1939, while Yezhov was head of the NKVD, that N S Khrushchev was sent to pacify the Ukraine. That period of his career, which was after his post in Moscow, is well known to have been a bloody one. During 1937 and 1938, he attended meetings of the ARCHPLAN (Moscow's architectural planning committee) regularly, about once or twice a month. He was not talkative at these meetings. [redacted] 20 architects [redacted] were assigned to this organization. [redacted] Kasanovich and Bulganin also attended these meetings. [redacted]

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2. Khrushchev discussed primarily the question of making the new avenue secure for travel by important Communist officials. He spoke about the necessity of a bomb shelter in the basement of any new building erected and emphasized that the new buildings had to be so shaped as not to lead to concentration and retention of any possible poison gases. Each new building was required to have shelters available and was to be of reinforced concrete at every other story. Over the cellar of each building there had to be at least 10" of very heavily reinforced concrete, strengthened by steel beams and bars. Also, each building had to have two exits and particularly a filter in each basement to eliminate any gas or chemical poisons resulting from explosions during hostilities. Older government buildings were modified in the late 1930's to meet the above specifications. In addition, all new schools built in the late 1930's in Moscow were constructed in such a manner as to be immediately convertible to hospitals. Each school had a built-in shelter.

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3. Khrushchev came from the northern part of the USSR, perhaps from Vladimirskaya Oblast. In speaking he pronounced his "O's" as people do who come from that region. It was said that in his earlier years in Moscow he had been a house painter. Khrushchev had a plain, unintelligent looking face. He was short and husky, with gray hair. As of 1938, he was then perhaps about 53 years old. He was definitely not an educated man, but had his full share of native common sense and slyness, as well as cruelty. All top Soviet Communists have this sly native intelligence. Khrushchev, just as Malenkov, grew to maturity in the Communist Party. During his conversations he emphasized the plainness of his speech and obviously despised the intelligentsia. This type of man in the USSR invariably hates the West, as in the West rests the only power which opposes Communism, which Communism raised such people as Khrushchev to great power. Khrushchev has never been outside the USSR. At least this was true as of 1938. Malenkov was the same type as Khrushchev, and therefore it was a natural thing for Malenkov to divide his power with Khrushchev after Stalin's death. Both men, Malenkov and Khrushchev, come of plain stock (Malenkov is a Cossack). Both men instinctively hate the West as possibly threatening their position of power and both grew up in the Communist Party. Khrushchev was polite on the surface as apparently are all the top men in the Communist hierarchy.

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4. It is extremely probable that Khrushchev, as Malenkov and other top level Communists, had earlier in his career been in the Spetsotdel (Special Section of the NKVD) of the Red Army and in the Cheka (predecessor of the NKVD). the above had never been officially reported but, for that matter, it never is, unless a man is as prominent in the NKVD as Beria or one of his immediate subordinates.

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7. In regard to Bulganin, [redacted] as any other very high level Communist Party political figure, he is probably not too close to the Soviet Army despite his present position as Minister of War. He definitely lacks leadership qualities

[redacted] Bulganin's rise to power might indicate that the quality of leadership in the USSR is deteriorating and that now the top level figures are, in the main, merely political Communist bureaucrats. A list of the various leading Soviet political figures does indicate that they appear all to be bureaucrats except for the military.

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